

Number: WSDD-116  
Date: April 30, 2015

TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF WIOA REGIONAL PLANNING UNITS

**SUBJECT MATTER HIGHLIGHTS**

This directive transmits the Governor's proposed regional planning areas as required under Section 106 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. A map depicting each regional boundary and the rationale supporting this recommendation are included as attachments.

**COMMENTS DUE**

May 29, 2015

Comments can be submitted through one of the following ways:

- 1) **Fax** — CWIB, Attention: Daniel X. Patterson at (916) 657-1337
- 2) **E-Mail** — [CWIBInfo@CWIB.ca.gov](mailto:CWIBInfo@CWIB.ca.gov) (Include "draft comments" in the subject line)
- 3) **Mail** — CWIB / P.O. Box 826880 / MIC 45 / Sacramento, CA 94280-0001

All comments received by the end of the comment period will be considered before the final directive is issued. The State does not respond individually to each comment received. However, a summary of comments will be released with the final directive. **Comments received after the specified due date will not be considered.**

If you have any questions, contact the CWIB at (916) 657-1446.

# WORKFORCE SERVICES DRAFT DIRECTIVE

Number: WSDD-116

Date: April 30, 2015

TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF WIOA REGIONAL PLANNING UNITS

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Purpose

The Employment Development Department (EDD) and the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) wish to communicate the proposed regional planning areas as required by Section 106 of the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA).

### Scope

This directive applies to all local workforce investment boards and their chief local elected officials.

### Effective Date

Upon signature by the Governor.

## REFERENCES

- WIOA Section 106(a) "Regions"
- WIOA Section 106(c) "Regional Coordination"

## STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

This directive contains only state imposed requirements.

## FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Retain this directive until further notice.

## BACKGROUND

The WIOA requires that the Governor identify WIOA planning regions in the state. The purpose of identifying these regions is to align workforce development activities and

*The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

resources with larger regional economic development areas and available resources, to provide coordinated and efficient services to job seekers and employers. The WIOA also requires the Governor to consult with the local boards and chief local elected officials in the local areas.

The proposed regional planning units, including the methodology and rationale to support this recommendation, have been presented to the CWIB's WIOA Implementation Workgroup, and the CWIB is now seeking public comment. All comments must include data that supports any recommendation to modify the proposed boundaries. **Comments that do not include data and supporting documentation will not be considered.**

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

The WIOA Section 106(a) requires the Governor to identify WIOA planning regions in the state and enumerates specific elements that must be considered as part of this process. Local board placement in regional planning units is based primarily on economic data, the location of WIOA client populations, the way these populations fit into regional economies, commute patterns between counties, and the geographic distribution of industry sectors.

While the boundaries of the proposed regional planning units were largely set by giving weight to the foregoing economic data and by starting with regional economic market boundaries drawn by the EDD's Labor Market Information Division (LMID), proposed regional planning unit boundaries were modified to take into account the number of local workforce investment areas in a region, the size of the area covered, and the boundaries and planning regions of existing regional workforce consortia.

In addition, the following principles and other considerations were also applied to the development of these regional planning units:

### Principles

- Local Workforce Boards will only be required to plan in one regional planning unit.
- Boards will always plan in the macro-regional economic markets where the majority of their populations are located.
- Regional planning units respect the existing administrative boundaries of Counties and Local Workforce Investment Boards.
- Regional planning boundaries provide some deference to existing planning relationships, provided that boards plan inside the macro-regional economic market where the majority of their populations reside.
- Regional planning units carved out of larger regional economic markets correspond, as much as possible, with the boundaries of sub-regional economic markets.

## Other Considerations

- Regional planning unit boundaries are typically consistent with, or nested inside, the historical economic development area boundaries determined by California's nonoperational Economic Strategy Panel.
- An examination of the location and number of Adult Education providers in the Adult Education consortia was undertaken to ensure that there were a sufficient number of providers in each regional planning unit.

A complete description of the process and methodology used for identifying these regional planning units and the map of the regional units are included as attachments to this directive.

Following the public comment period and completion of the necessary analysis, the final recommendations will be presented to the CWIB's Executive Committee and full Board in June 2015. Their recommendations will be provided to the Governor for final approval.

In the near future, the local boards within each regional planning unit will be required to develop a regional plan that establishes such things as regional service strategies, development and implementation of sector initiatives, and administrative cost arrangements.

## **ACTION**

Bring this directive to the attention of the appropriate staff and the chief local elected officials in the local area.

## **INQUIRIES**

For more information, please contact Daniel X. Patterson at (916) 657-1446, or [Daniel.Patterson@cwib.ca.gov](mailto:Daniel.Patterson@cwib.ca.gov).

/S/ JOSÉ LUIS MÁRQUEZ, Chief  
Central Office Workforce Services Division

Attachments are available on the internet:

1. [Proposed Regional Planning Units](#)
2. [Map of LMID Economic Markets](#)
3. [Regional Planning Unit Methodology](#)